



# United States Department of the Interior

2930

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Lander Field Office  
P.O. Box 589 (1335 Main Street)  
Lander, Wyoming 82520-0589

April 30, 2004

Re: Environmental Assessment for the Issuance  
Of a Special Recreation Permit to Conduct  
Handcart Treks On BLM Administered  
Public Lands

Dear Reader:

Attached for your review and comment is the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the issuance of a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Farm Management Company, to manage organized groups of handcart trekkers along a segment of the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express National Historic Trails. This activity would be a non-exclusive use of public lands, therefore current uses on the public lands, including other recreational uses, would still occur. The proposed route of approximately 26 miles begins on Church property at Sixth Crossing, near Sweetwater Station, Wyoming, to Church property at Rock Creek Hollow, southeast of Atlantic City, Wyoming.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, this EA was prepared to analyze environmental impacts associated with the proposed recreational use of the public lands in Fremont County, Wyoming. Pending the results of a public review of this EA, the Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office, will prepare a formal Decision Record. Within this document the decisions on route selection, season of use, number of participants per trekking season, trek group size, vehicle use on the national historic trails, trekker staging areas, trekker campsite, and sanitation as related to the proposed handcart trekking activities will be provided along with the rationale for their selection.

Please make reference to the Handcart Trekking EA when submitting comments. Your comments should be as specific as possible. Comments on the proposed actions and alternatives presented and the adequacy of the impact analysis will be accepted until May 31, 2004.

Comments may be submitted via regular mail to: Ray Hanson, Project Lead, Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office, P.O. Box 589, Lander, Wyoming 82520.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to the following address:

E-mail: WY\_LFOSRP\_HC@blm.gov

Please note that comments, including names, e-mail addresses, and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this plainly at the beginning of your written comment. Such requirements will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please retain this EA for future reference. A copy of the EA has been sent to affected government agencies and to those who responded to the initial scoping request on January 28, 2003, or otherwise indicated that they wished to receive a copy of the EA. Copies of the EA are also available at the following locations:

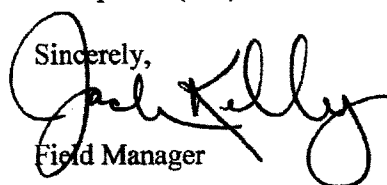
Bureau of Land Management  
Wyoming State Office  
5353 Yellowstone Road  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

Bureau of Land Management  
Lander Field Office  
1300 N. Third Street  
Lander, Wyoming 82520

Bureau of Land Management  
Casper Field Office  
2987 Prospector Drive  
Casper, Wyoming 82604

If you require additional information regarding this project, please contact Ray Hanson, Project Lead, at the above Lander Field Office address or phone (307) 332-8420.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Kelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Field Manager

Attachment –  
Handcart Trekking EA